

Grand Opening of SemiSouth's New SiC fab

An open house celebration marked the completion of SemiSouth Laboratories' multi-million dollar, state-of-the-art facility in Starkville, MS, USA. It has completed the construction of its new SiC manufacturing facility and has completed a large portion of the installation of its manufacturing equipment. To mark this milestone, the company held a Grand Opening celebration at the Starkville site. The event also marked the opening of II-VI, Inc.'s SiC wafer processing clean-room located inside the SemiSouth facility.

"The completion of this facility is a major milestone for both SemiSouth and the state of Mississippi," said Dr. Casady.

"This opening marks the debut of the first major semiconductor manufacturing facility in the

state and provides a solid example of homegrown high tech economic development. This state-of-the-art facility is a proud example of how federal investment in University-based research and development, coupled with state support for high tech job growth, can lead to true high tech economic development in Mississippi. SemiSouth's success derives from the strong support of our federal, state and local government leaders and our solid base of private investors. Today's grand opening ceremony is an opportunity for us to pause and recognize the support of those individuals who have been instrumental in the company's success."

"The energy efficient technology being produced by SemiSouth has wide ranging

applications that include advancing our military war fighting capabilities and helping reduce our reliance on foreign energy sources," said Congressman Wicker. "We are fortunate to have this cutting-edge company right here in the Golden Triangle area of Mississippi."

Co-founded five years ago by two Mississippi State University (MSU) professors spearheading SiC research and development activities at Mississippi State University (MSU). During the past five years, SemiSouth has grown from a small operation with three fulltime employees working out of a research lab at MSU, to an up-and-coming silicon carbide based semiconductor supplier recently named one of the top 5 most promising companies at the recent Semiconductor Venture Fair and

one of the top 50 emerging technology companies in the US by Dow Jones / Venture Wire. Both founders currently hold executive positions with SemiSouth. Dr. Casady is President and CEO, and Dr. Mike Mazzola is Chief Technology Officer, leading SemiSouth's continued technology development. Congressman Pickering stated: "SemiSouth is on the leading edge of technologies that will defend us and provide critical national security capabilities and promising commercial applications. This major milestone for Mississippi-based SemiSouth underscores the great value of an industry partnership with Mississippi State University and its contribution to the economic development of our State."

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